#### RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

Sadly, the three-year lease on my EV will be up next month and we will not be renewing it. Although my husband and I would prefer to drive an electronic vehicle, the way charging stations are set up in the San Joaquin Valley is discouraging and inconvenient to drivers. We will, regrettably, be switching over to a gas vehicle with good mileage.

Charging stations around town are either too far apart, open only during work hours (such as the ones at the Air District), exclusive (Tesla Superchargers do not work on my Honda Fit EV), or require premier memberships (EVgo) that are costly and still don't have the plug in my car needs. We would love to continue to drive an electronic vehicle but simply put, the resources we would need to put in a days-worth of driving for work are not available to us in Fresno.

Thank you,

Farhat Hanifi

#### RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

VW's settlement with California should make it mandatory that VW focus their reconciliation efforts in economically disadvantaged areas like the Central Valley (Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Visalia) and surrounding areas to focus on remediating a portion of the environmental damage they have caused. By investing in the Valley, they will demonstrate their commitment to environmental preservation in these areas instead of a fiscally motivated initiative, like the areas they are more interested in investing; i.e. the Bay Area and Silicon Valley.

Monica Limon, Fresno Resident

### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

I live in Sanger, a small city in Fresno county, and we don't have enough charging stations in our city, let alone our county. This discourages the use of electric vehicles. I was considering getting an electric vehicle, however because of the lack of infrastructure and how much I drive for work, there is no way I could purchase a car like that – unless I want to be stranded.

There is a big need in the Valley because we have major air quality issues with ground level ozone. Electric vehicle charging stations could make a big difference.

Thank you,

Destiny Rodriguez Resident of Sanger, CA

#### RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST 30-MONTH ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

First, we do not have the resources to buy electric vehicles. And, even if we did, there are no accessible charging stations to charge them with. What is the point of having these vehicles if we don't have the proper tools, like charging stations to maintain them. We also need a set aside specifically for disadvantaged communities to ensure that we have access and equal opportunities to these vehicles and services.

Thank you,

Estela Ortega, Fresno resident

RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Mary Nichols,

I need more charging stations because someone stole the charging cord right off my hybrid plug-in Prius and I can't afford to replace the charger cord. There are very few convenient charging stations so I end up getting significantly lower mileage now. When I charged at home I would fill my gas tank once a month. Now I fill it once a week.

Helen Acosta

#### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

We need more access and connectivity to charging stations. We cannot buy electric vehicles without having accessible stations to charge them. It is for example like buying a cell phone that comes with no charger. The phone will eventually die and be useless. We need more charging stations in small communities throughout the San Joaquin Valley like Delano, Bakersfield, Merced, and Fresno. We don't need more in big cities that have sufficient charging stations. If we were to use electric vehicles on the freeway, we would get stranded all the time because they are simply not there.

Thank you,

Francisco Mendez, Fresno resident

#### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

I have lived in Fresno since 2000 and this is not the first time that projects and investments skip the San Joaquin Valley, like we were not even part of California. Volkswagen is doing it again with their plan of putting vehicle charging stations in places where they already have plenty in Southern and Northern California. Their plans for the SJV are limited to a few charging stations along the 99. We can't let this happen!!! In the SJV we have the worst air quality not only in California but in the nation, therefore we need to develop our infrastructure to support cleaner cars. We demand that charging stations are open in the SJV major cities, at a minimum in Bakersfield, Fresno, Merced and Modesto.

Thank you,

Nayamin Martinez
Fresno resident and mother of three

## RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST 30-MONTH ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

In the Valley we breathe some of California's (and the county's) dirtiest air, we have some of the most vulnerable neighborhoods, and we have to drive the furthest to get to basic necessities like work, school, and the grocery. EV charging infrastructure helps us reliably drive cleaner vehicles, makes it possible for people who can't install their own charging station to access EVs, and helps us all breathe cleaner air as we go about life in the place we love.

Thanks so much,

Katie Roedner Sutter Resident of Ripon, CA

#### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

More charging stations will make it possible for people to drive clean EVs instead of fossil fuel vehicles. EVs actually cost considerably less per VMT, so there is an incentive for people to trade in their old gas powered vehicles and buy cleaner EVs. But more charging stations are necessary to make this possible.

Thank you,

Charles Ashley

## RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST 30-MONTH ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

I would make the financial investment in an electric vehicle if the infrastructure was there to support it. As it is, we plan to leave the valley for retirement, as the poor air quality is already taking a toll on our health. Many that can afford to will do the same.

Susan Pickruhn Valley Resident

### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Dear Chair Nichols and Board Members,

I considered purchasing an electric vehicle last year, but opted not to due to the lack of charging stations in the Central Valley.

Siobhan Maureen Resident of Patterson, CA

#### **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

To Whomever it may Concern,

As a concerned citizen and environmental justice advocate, I believe the Central Valley is a prime region for installing charging stations because of the severity of air pollution. Installing charging stations would help increase usage of electric vehicles within the Central Valley because of the reassurance to charge your car at a convenient location. This in turn, would help alleviate our poor air quality issues.

In addition, the Central Valley is often overlooked, and neglecting to hear our needs is just proof of how we are overlooked. Overall, I think more people would invest in purchasing an electric vehicle if we had more charging stations.

Thank you for hearing my concerns,

Michelle Barron 2003 Alton St. Selma, CA 93662

RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S FIRST 30-MONTH ZEV INVESTMENT PLAN

Dear Chair Nichols,

The valley should be the electric-vehicle-powered-by-solar-energy mecca of the country. We have the sun, we have the need with having to meet air quality standards, and the state just approved the largest tax increase on motor vehicles. It's time to quit beating are heads against the wall and start planning for the future!

Tracy Lane Clovis, CA

**RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT** 

We all deserve to have the same resources and opportunities as everyone else. We are the ones who live in the communities most impacted by pollution and yet have no resources to help us. For example, the community of Jane Addams is right off the 99 freeway, children who go to this school breath dirty air 24 hours. Charging stations and electric vehicles should be prioritized in these communities first.

# **Rosalina Carson**

Fresno Resident

# RE: VOLKSWAGEN'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLAN

Board Members,

California is the most populous and fastest growing state. The Central Valley is positioned to become a bedroom community for the Bay Area. California commuters typically travel one person per car... as more commuters fill our roads, our air becomes more polluted. Asthma in young children must be close to epidemic. Electric cars will reduce vehicular emissions and in turn give our children cleaner air. We need to provide incentives for people to purchase electric vehicles; charging stations would be a great selling point.

Thank you,

## Jeani Ferrari

Resident of Turlock, CA

## **RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT**

Board Members,

The more we support EV's the more our air quality will improve. The Valley has terrific incentives to switch to an EV. Let's support those who do switch with charging stations like we did in the 1990's. Who killed the electric car charging stations? Bring them back!

Lex Crump Resident of Clovis, CA

RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT MONEY

To Whomever It May Concern;

As a Bakersfield resident and the owner of a pair of lungs that are important to my future, I'm contacting you in regards to any settlement money from the Volkswagen Corporation lawsuit that can be used for EV charging stations, and am hoping that some of it will come to Bakersfield and the Central Valley. Electric Vehicles are the future and we could use the charging stations now. I would like to use an EV but I don't know of any public places to charge them. I also suspect that regardless of one's political bent or persuasion there may be many other folks who are counting on their lungs to be in good working order for as long as possible. Les' get our fair share of what there may be to be had.

Mr. Tony Amarante Lung Owner Bakersfield

# RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT

I live in a town of over 500,000 people (Fresno) and Metro of 1.5 million people, yet have just a handful of public chargers to choose from. It would boost our use of electric vehicles if it was much easier to charge in town and along 99 freeway.

Thank you, Andy Hansen-Smith, Fresno, CA

**RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT** 

The communities with poor air quality must be given priority for clean up: from EV charging stations to tree planting to fewer heavy industry. Environmental and economic justice are the issues at stake.

Thank you,

**Boudicca Todi** 

**RE: VOLKSWAGEN SETTLEMENT** 

The charging stations where I work are always busy and there are other electric vehicles parked nearby.

David Bruce Rose Resident of Fresno, CA